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Comment Period Open for Latest Food Safety Modernization Act Proposed Rule

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has published a new proposed rule under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). The proposed rule, Current Good Manufacturing Practice and Hazard Analysis and Risk-Based Preventive Controls for Food for Animals, is available for public comment until February 26, 2014.

The proposed rule would establish for the first time Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMPs) that specifically address the manufacturing, processing, packing, and holding of animal food. FDA considered it important to establish CGMPs for animal food as prerequisite requirements to ensure that these products are manufactured under conditions and practices that protect against contamination. The proposed rule also would establish Hazard Analysis and Risk-based Preventive Controls for Food for Animals to implement the provisions in section 103 of the FDA FSMA.

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets encourages all affected stakeholders and individuals interested in food for animals to submit comments. The FDA website link to the Federal Register Notice, Fact Sheet, and Frequently Asked Questions for the proposed rule is provided below:

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm366510.htm>

There are two ways to submit comments to FDA:

- 1) Comment electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!submitComment;D=FDA-2011-N-0922-0002>
- 2) Written comments may be faxed to the FDA at 301-827-6870 or you may mail them to:
Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

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About the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets: VAAFM facilitates, supports and encourages the growth and viability of agriculture in Vermont while protecting the working landscape, human health, animal health, plant health, consumers and the environment.

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